

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-3 and 5-15 are pending in the application, where claims 1, 10 and 13 are independent.

The Office action objects to the title of the invention as not sufficiently descriptive, and requires a new title. In response, the current title has been deleted and substituted with a new title which is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The Office Action objects to claim 14. In response, claim 14 has been amended to remove the alleged informality noted in the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that the objection of claim 14 has been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Without agreeing with the position forwarded in the Office Action, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 10 has been amended to remove the alleged informality noted in the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 10-12 has been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 12 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §101. Without agreeing with the position forwarded in the Office Action, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claims 12 and 15 have been amended for better form. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 12 and 15 have been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 6 and 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. 2004/014894 (Cilvin) and rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cilvin in view of an article entitled "Clock and Power Gating with Timing Closure" (Mukherjee). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cilvin in view of U.S. 6,624,818 (Mantor). Claims 3, 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cilvin in view of common art/Official Notice. It is respectfully submitted that claims

16 and 18-20 are patentable over Cilvin, Mukherjee, Mantor and Official Notice for at least the following reasons.

At the outset, it is respectfully submitted that Mukherjee is not prior art to the present application. The present application was PCT filed on March 17, 2004 as PCT/IB2004/050270, which designates the U.S. and is published in English as WO 2004/084065, as well as claims the benefit of a European Patent Application No. EP03100710.7, filed on March 19, 2003, which is thus the effective filing date of the present application. As the effective filing date of the present application of March 19, 2003 is before the Mukherjee Publication date of May-June 2003, Mukherjee is not available as prior art with regard to the present application.

The Office Action correctly notes, on page 7 in rejecting claim 4, that Cilvin does not disclose or suggest disabling a supply of clock signals to circuitry for writing the result into a register of the register file, as currently recited in amended independent claims 1, 10 and 13. Mukherjee is cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Cilvin.

As Mukherjee is not prior art with regard to the present application, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 10 and 13, as amended, are allowable. In addition, claims 2-3, 5-9, 11-12 and 14-15 are allowable at least because they depend from independent claims 1, 10 and 13, as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the dependent claims.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded. And in particular, no Official Notices are conceded.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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